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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY USSR (Leningrad Oblast)
SUBJECT Area Description of SKB 143
at Leningrad

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REFERENCES

25X1G DATE OF INFO. PLACE ACQUIRED

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Installation and Points of Interest

1. The office at 18 Kuznetsovskaya Ulitsa and the office and workshops at the shipyard are parts of the SKB (Special Design Bureau) The office at 18 Kuznetsovskaya Ulitsa was on the ground-floor apartment in the apartment house The shipyard was located on the south bank of the Neva River about one km west of the last bridge before the Gulf of Finland. SKB 143 had other sections, such as the hull design group, located around Leningrad. These other groups were said to be composed only of Soviets. We never knew for certain if these other groups really existed, since we only heard of them and never saw any physical evidences of their existence. SKB was directed by the MSP (Ministry of the Shipbuilding Industry) in Moscow. I have prepared four sketches of the SKB and the surrounding area. See page 5, overlay of a German map of Leningrad, scale 1:50,000, 2 cm. equals 1 km, Truppenausgabe, 5 Ausgabe vom V 43, Leningrad O-36-1-B, prepared by the Korps-kartenstelle (mot.) 426 IX 42, showing the area around SKB 143. Page 6 shows entrance to shipyard with location of SKB 143 buildings and adjacent structures. On page 7 is a sketch of the area around apartment house which housed SKB 143 office and living quarters of the German specialists. On page 8 is a ground-floor plan of the apartment house. 7

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Area Description

- 25X1A 2. The relative location of the SKB 143 offices at the shipyard and the bureau [] are shown on the accompanying overlay [see page 5]. Other points of interest are self-explanatory. The MVD offices were housed in the building northeast of the shipyard. This building was referred to as the Gray House by Soviets and Germans alike. Smolniiyewas the exclusive section where the higher Party members lived. I have no idea of the activities at the artillery school, electrotechnical school, or details of the other points of interest shown on this overlay.

Shipyard Area

3. The only entrance to the shipyard was via the bridge. The entire shipyard area was surrounded by the canal on the land side and the Neva River on the river side. The shipyard itself was surrounded by a two-meter-high board fence which ran along parallel to the canal [see page 6]. At the point where the canal met the river, strands of barbed wire were run from the ends of the fence down into the canal, thus blocking further passage. The single entrance to the shipyard was obstructed by a gate. This gate could be opened to admit vehicular traffic. To the right of the big gate, there was a small personnel gate. There were always at least two female guards at this entrance. The office to the left of the entrance served as the control point for traffic into the shipyard. It was a small two-storied brick building. When people came to apply for work, they applied at this office. To the right of this entrance, there was another two-story brick building. This housed the administration office and machine design bureau of SKB 143. Only Soviet personnel were employed here. When any of the German specialists were brought to the shipyard, they were taken to this office first. [] either remained to work at a certain task or were escorted through the gate to the SKB assembly hall.

25X1A [] Inside to the left of the entrance is the shipyard's canteen. []

25X1A that the conditions for the workers were quite unsanitary. All the utensils were dirty and rusty. There was also a section in the canteen for the intelligentsia. It was said to be much cleaner and to have a more elegant arrangement.

4. The SKB assembly hall was a large stone building (30x80x12 meters) with a glass roof. Behind this building, a test bed with concrete revetments had been built. The assembly hall itself was furnished with lathes, milling machines, etc. One part of the hall was partitioned off and served as a small machine shop for the repair and maintenance of precision parts. [] not allowed to enter this hall too often. The only times [] were to correct mistakes in the installation, to change designs to conform to the way parts had actually been built or installed, or to do some job for which [] were incapable. [] never given any inkling of what went on in the other buildings nearby. [] they were not connected with SKB 143. [] never did find out what kind of work went on in the shipyard as a whole.

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Apartment House Area

- 25X1A 5. [] a sketch of the immediate area around the apartment house at 18 Kuznetsovskaya Ulitsa [see page 7].
6. The three-wing, six-story building at 18 Kuznetsovskaya Ulitsa had ten entrances [see page 8]. []

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[] All windows on the ground floor were barred. The kitchen, which was used as the archives, had a metal door. The room shown to the right of the entrance of the apartment housed the kommandant whose job it was to oversee our movements in and out of the building. The kommandant was changed every 24 hours. Anyone coming from the apartments upstairs had to report at the kommandantur before going out. If any of the specialists had to go to the SKB office at the shipyard, he had to be accompanied by an escort. Likewise, if anyone wanted to go out and go more than one kilometer away, an escort was again necessary. ANTIPIIN himself never came to the apartment, but his subordinates were often there.

7. Although the building had been built in 1948, it was in poor condition. The floor had been laid so poorly, that one could see the mice playing under and between the boards of which the floor was made. The roof leaked, the wind blew through the window joists, the tiles fell off in the bathroom, etc. There was no elevator in the elevator shaft. []

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[] specialists lived on the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth floors. Soviet families occupied the other six apartments. The other entrances mentioned above, except the second, led to apartments occupied by Soviet families. Another group of [] specialists had their apartments at entrance two. They were the Kreiselgruppe (gyroscope) group. Beyond the fact [] we knew no other details. We seldom associated with this group.

Security Measures

- 25X1A 8. [] the security measures were rather simple. At the apartment office [] no passes were needed. The kommandants knew us and could have easily seen if one were missing. We could leave the apartment house under three conditions: (1) without an escort when remaining in the vicinity of the apartment (we still had to check out at the kommandantur); (2) with an escort for shopping or sightseeing outside a one-kilometer radius; (3) with an escort who took us directly to the shipyard. When we went out with an escort, the escort carried our passes, and we were never allowed to see or hold them. When entering the gate at the shipyard, the escort would show the specialists' passes plus his own. Soviets needed no passes for the offices at the apartment. However, whenever a visitor did come, his arrival was announced beforehand to the kommandant by telephone. The archives, or old kitchen, [see para 6 above] contained a safe. All windows were barred.

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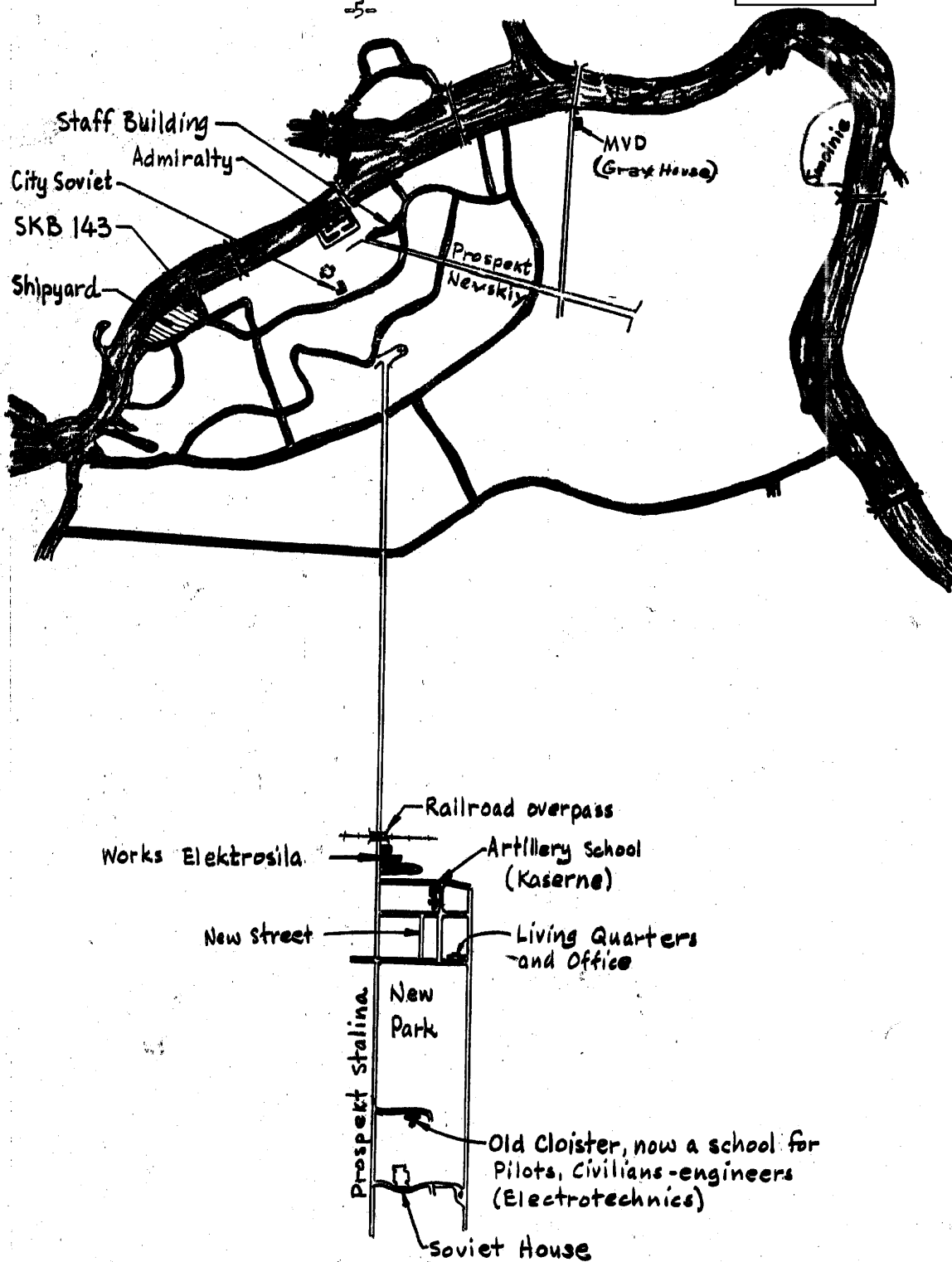
9. Most of the guards at the shipyard were women. They were of all ages, wore uniforms of military type with no insignia, and carried pistols and carbines. I do not know the number of guards. A pass was needed to enter the shipyard, but I never saw one except as it was flashed at a guard. There were no special lights at night around the shipyard. The only guards I saw inside the shipyard were the ones patrolling inside the fence along the canal. There was also always one guard stationed at the entrance to the SKB assembly hall. All papers were classified at the shipyard. Any papers at the apartment which had to be classified were sent in a sealed tube via courier to the shipyard. Papers which came back with a classified stamp had only one designation, sekretno (secret).

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SKB AREA - Leningrad - USSR

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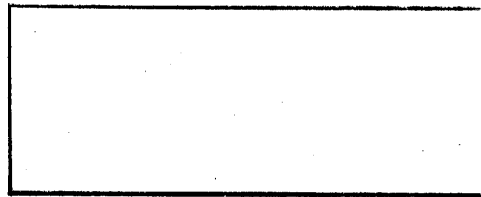
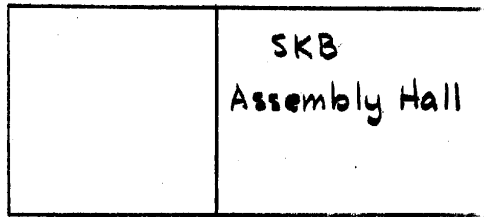
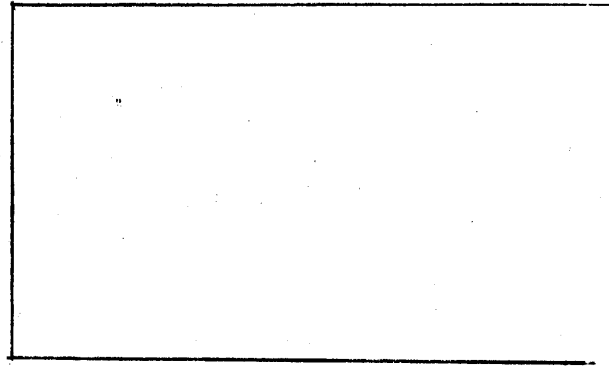
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Shipyard
Office

SKB 143
Office

Fence

Bridge

street

Krasnaya ul.

Site Layout of SKB 143 at the Shipyard

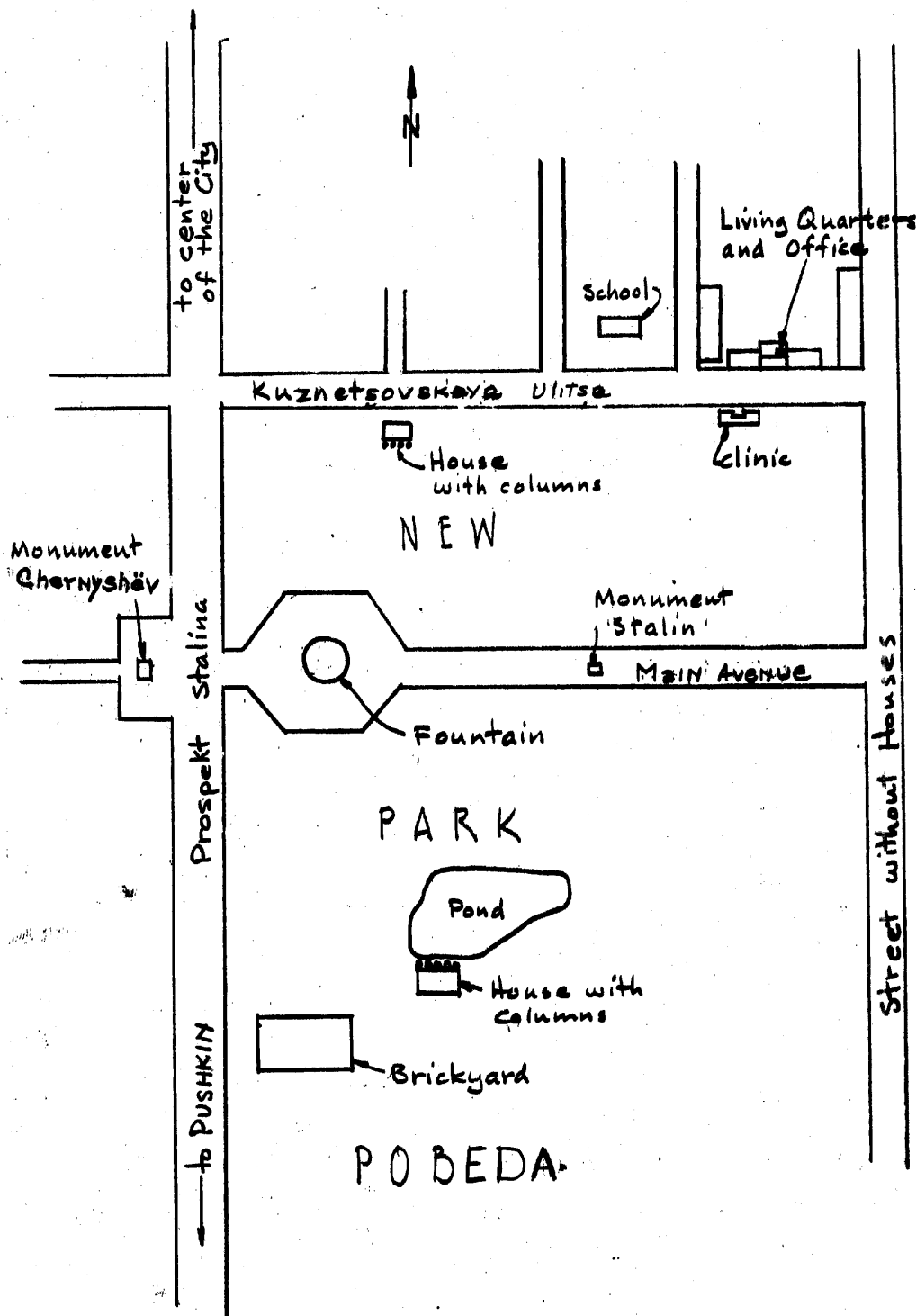
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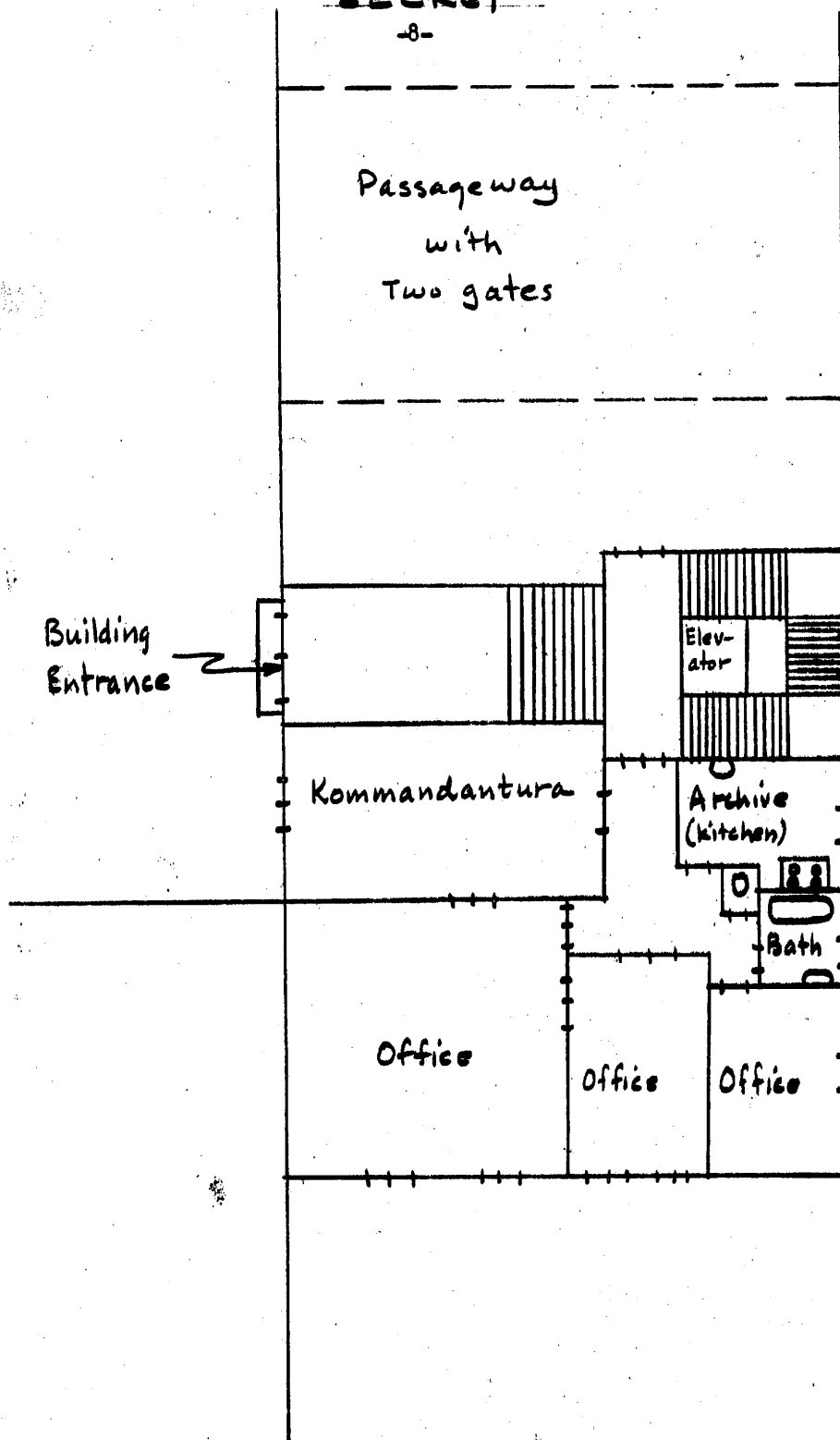


Sketch showing Area around Dwelling & Office 25X1A

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Floor Plan of Office
(18 Kuznetsovskaya Ulitsa)

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